

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL SECTION I

St. Matthew's Parish School, an Episcopal day school, is an integral part of the Parish of St. Matthew, serving children and families of the parish and larger community. The school provides an excellent education through a challenging, caring and balanced program, which promotes intellectual, spiritual, physical and emotional growth. Our purpose is to affirm that we are all children of God and to nurture in each student a sense of self as a creative, ethical and responsible leader in the community.

Because we are a small school by design, St. Matthew's 48 full time teachers and students have the opportunity to enjoy working closely together and have easy access to one another. We are a student body of approximately 325 in the preschool through eighth grade, with fewer than eleven students for every teacher. As a parish school, we not only nurture and care for each other, but the entire community values how we, the adults, treat children and how we insist children treat one another.

Since its founding in 1949, the school has consistently sought to develop and challenge the best that is in its students. To accomplish this, the school provides a challenging and traditional academic program supported by a nurturing environment. Teachers are dedicated to a view of the whole child and are thus responsive to children as people. We believe, therefore, that education works best through a program, which stresses intellectual, aesthetic, and spiritual and physical development; social involvement and responsibility; and moral understanding and maturity. Our vitality as a school and our success with each student depends upon our ability to help each child recognize, appreciate, and develop to the fullest of his or her potential.

The new library and student center, housing over 12,000 volumes, is a hub of activity on campus. Its extensive fiction and non-fiction collection serves as a fine resource for pleasure reading or reference materials. Weekly class visits book clubs, author visits and special events encourage regular library use and familiarize students with its systems. In addition, there are computerized periodical and encyclopedia systems, and computers connected to the Internet. Student and parents may use the library before and after school, at recess and at lunch.

The above material was taken from the school brochure.